St Martin in the Fields

Wednesday 22 February 2023

Bread for the World

An Informal Eucharist

with The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Introit Lent Prose (Hear us, O Lord)

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Refrain: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against us

O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.
Refrain

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated bow down and hearken to thy weeping children pity and pardon all our grievous tres passes.
Refrain

'Attende, Domine', anonymous Latin from the Mozarabic Breviary (5th to 8th century), com piled by Dom Pothier (fl.1824)

Welcome and Opening Prayers *Revd Richard Carter*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

All **Holy God,**
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.

Opening Hymn

1 **Forty days and forty nights**
Thou wast fasting in the wild,
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted and yet undefiled.

2 **Sunbeams scorching all the day,**
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed
Prowling beasts about thy way,
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

3 **Let us thine endurance share,**
And awhile from joys abstain,
With thee watching unto prayer,
Strong with thee to suffer pain.

4 **And if Satan, vexing sore,**
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

continued...

5 So shall we have peace divine,
Holier gladness ours shall be,
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.

6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side,
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.

G.H. Smyttan (1822-70) and Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Prayers of Forgiveness

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God:

Silence is kept.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
And cleanse me from my sin:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me:
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Kyrie from Missa Aeterna Christi Munera Palestrina

And Jesus said "Your sins are forgiven"

In the name of the Father who created you and waits to welcome you

home, in the name of the Son who searches for you, in the name of the Spirit who brings the healing of forgiveness and calls you to do the same, you have been set free.

All **Amen**

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen**

Words on the Edge Matthew 6:1-6

‘Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

‘So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others.
Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ‘Do not

store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Reflection *Fr Vitaliy Novak & Revd Richard Carter*

Anthem Blahoslovy Dushe Moya Stetsenko
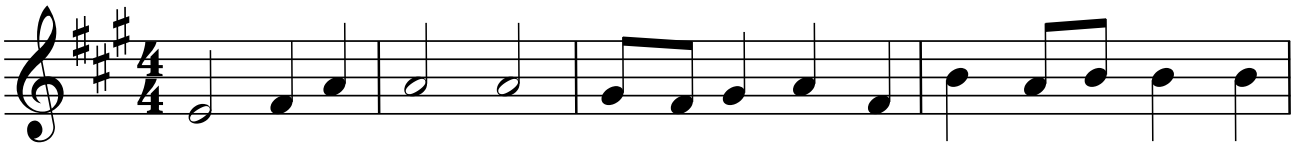
Bless the Lord O my soul,
Blessed art thou, O Lord my God.
Bless the Lord O my soul,
And all that is in me bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord O my soul,
And forget not all his benefits.
Bless the Lord O my soul,
Blessed art thou, O Lord my God

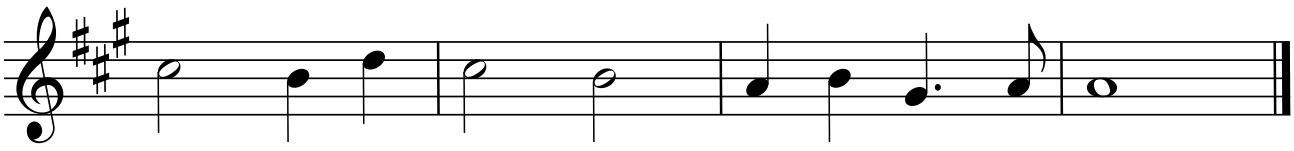
The Imposition of Ashes

Dear friends in Christ, these ashes are a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of Lent. God our Father, you create us from the dust of the earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a sign of our penitence and a symbol of our mortality.

May these ashes be a sign to each one of us, here and in own homes of God's forgiveness and grace.

During the imposition of ashes, God is Forgiveness is sung





All **God our Father, the strength of all who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, in our weakness, we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Prayers
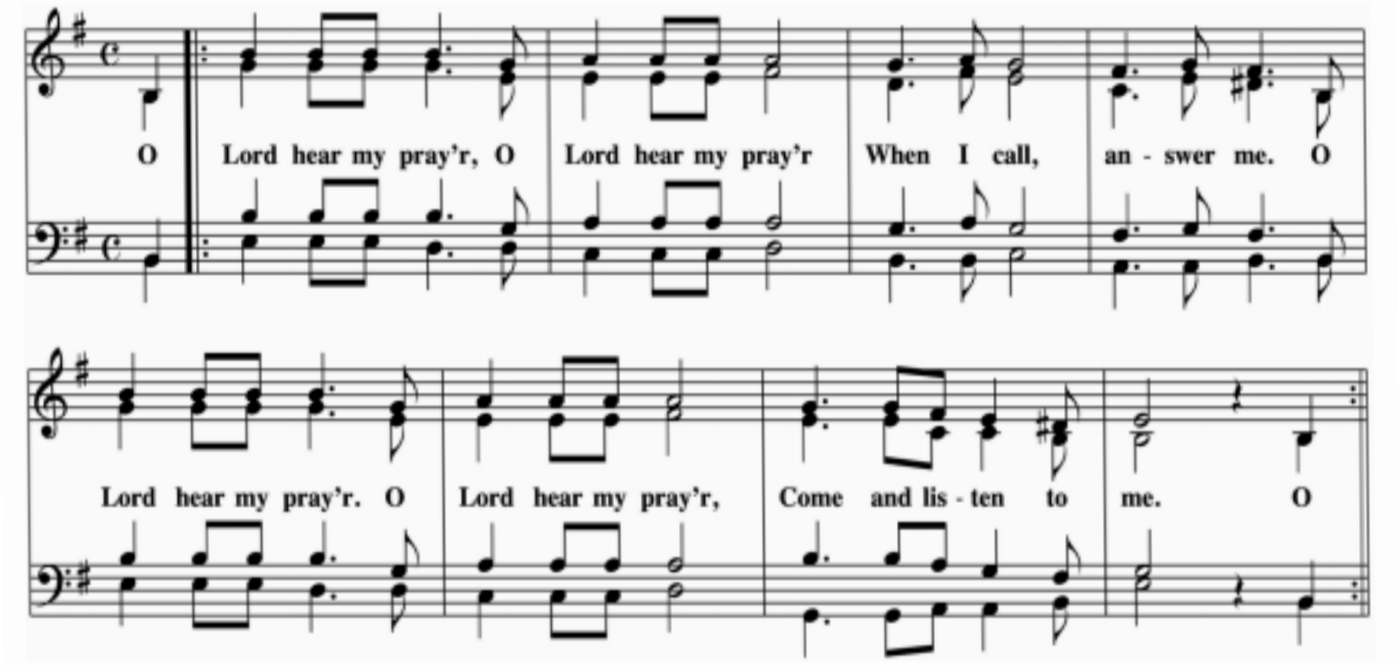
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Concern

Prayer of Hope

Each prayer ends with **'We pray to you'.**

Prayer Chant



Sharing of the Peace

God of eternal peace, who offers the gift of peace and whose children are the peacemakers; pour your peace into our hearts, that conflict and anger may cease.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer each other a sign of that peace

Gathering Hymn

1 Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3 Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

4 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Frances R Havergal (1836-1879)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

All **We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All **It is right to give thanks and praise**

Together we pray:

All **Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free, and fill each one of us with your love from on high. Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your table with all your saints.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray in our first language the prayer our Saviour taught us:

All **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen

The Breaking of the Bread

Look, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven, is broken for the life of the world. The gifts of God for the people of God.

All **Jesus Bread of Life, Bread which is broken, Bread for the world.**

Communion Anthem Wash Me Throughly Wesley

Prayer after Communion

All **God of our pilgrimage, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Notices

Thanksgiving Hymn

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.

2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel it's keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston (1791-1867)

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

Blessing Anthem Peace I Leave with You Beach

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Thank you.

Conductor: Jenny Sterling
Volcalists: The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

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